

Prelude: The First Principle: Economics as Love



The day we meet and fall in love with Jesus Christ, we find a passion that fires all of our life and meshes us with the integrator of the universe. His love enfolds us in a grip that will not let us go. Embraced in such love, we in turn, press into loving all, to the depth of our capacity, to the breadth of our capacity.

The integrator of the universe, however, expresses his love in concrete economic terms. As it flows through us, we find expressions of his love in economics. Love for family is manifest in fatherly and motherly provision of necessities. Love for community is expressed in the provision of employment for as many as our giftedness can sustain. Love for the nation is expressed in just, productive, creative, liberating economics.

Because God is a community in unity, God is love. His love is reflected in our individual humanness as we act justly in financial areas. As his love is reflected in our communal humanity, we develop co-operative economics. This is a core theme throughout this material. As love disappears in societies, economics becomes exploitive, dehumanised and lacking in morality.

Such love is released where the Holy Spirit moves freely. Where revivals occur, the love of the Holy Spirit overwhelms many. There are immediate economic changes that occur. Families become whole, sins are put away, unjust and sordid businesses disappear. As revivals die, the distance between people increases, sins against others and society increase, and economics begin to disintegrate. But such economic change is largely determined by the theology preceding a revival.